

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2410

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 5, 1955

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. FULBRIGHT, and Mr. MUNDT)
introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the
Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To promote the foreign policy of the United States by amending
the United States Information and Educational Exchange
Act of 1948 (Public Law 402, Eightieth Congress).

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That the United States Information and Educational Ex-
4 change Act of 1948, as amended (Public Law 402, Eighti-
5 eth Congress, as amended) is further amended as follows:

6 (1) Section 603 is amended by adding the following
7 at the end thereof: "Notwithstanding the foregoing, the
8 report of the Commission on Information to the Director of
9 the United States Information Agency shall hereafter be

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1 submitted semiannually and its report to the Congress
2 annually.”

3 (2) Subsection (4) of section 801 is amended by
4 adding “of materials for use” before the words “outside the
5 the continental limits of the United States.”

6 (3) Subsection (6) of section 801 is amended by sub-
7 stituting the figure “15” for the figure “10” appearing in
8 the second sentence thereof.

9 (4) Section 801 is further amended by inserting the fol-
10 lowing new subsections:

11 “(7) to engage the services of experts and con-
12 sultants, or organizations thereof, as authorized by sec-
13 tion 15 of the Act of August 2, 1946 (U. S. C., title 5,
14 sec. 55a), and individuals so engaged may be com-
15 pensated at rates not in excess of \$50 per day and, while
16 away from their homes or regular places of business,
17 may be paid travel expenses, including per diem allow-
18 ances in lieu of subsistence at the rates provided for in
19 the Standardized Government Travel Regulations.

20 “(8) to provide hospitalization and medical care
21 for alien employees while assigned temporarily for duty
22 outside the countries in which they reside.”

23 (5) Section 802 is amended by adding after the word
24 “including” in the first line of subsection 2 the following

1 language: "contracts of insurance, guaranty, and indemnity,
2 and".

3 (6) Section 802 is amended by adding the following
4 subsection:

5 " (5) to pay the travel expenses, including a per
6 diem allowance in lieu of subsistence, of alien employees
7 and their dependents when such employees are author-
8 ized to travel in connection with appointment, change
9 of duty, or separation."

10 SEC. 2. The United States Information and Educational
11 Exchange Act of 1948, as amended (Public Law 402,
12 Eightieth Congress, as amended), is further amended by
13 adding the following new sections at the end thereof:

14 "SEC. 1012. For the purpose of promoting and main-
15 taining friendly relations abroad by the prompt settlement
16 of meritorious claims arising in a foreign country, the Sec-
17 retary of State and the Director of the United States In-
18 formation Agency, and such other officers as they may desig-
19 nate for such purposes, and under such regulations as they
20 may prescribe, are hereby authorized to consider, ascertain,
21 adjust, determine, and make payments, where accepted by
22 the claimants in full satisfaction and in final settlement, of
23 claims on account of damage to or loss or destruction of public
24 or private property both real and personal or on account of

1 personal injury or death, including claims respecting per-
2 sonal property bailed to the Government and claims for dam-
3 ages incident to the use and occupancy of real property,
4 whether under a lease, express or implied, or otherwise,
5 whenever caused by any instrumentality, officer, agent, or
6 employee of the Department or Agency, incident to the
7 performance of any official functions for the United States,
8 when the amount of such claim does not exceed \$5,000:
9 *Provided*, That in cases where the amount exceeds \$2,500
10 but does not exceed \$5,000, payment shall be made only
11 after approval by the Secretary or Director.

12 "The Secretary or Director may certify to Congress any
13 meritorious claim or portion thereof which is in excess of
14 \$5,000 as may be deemed to be just and reasonable for
15 payment out of appropriations that may be made by Congress
16 therefor.

17 "No claim shall be considered unless presented within
18 one year after the claim arose, except for good cause shown
19 that the claim could not have been presented within that
20 period of time.

21 "Every claim settled under the authority of this Act shall
22 be final and conclusive for all purposes, notwithstanding
23 any other provision of law to the contrary."

24 "SEC. 1013. (a) In accordance with regulations pre-
25 scribed by him and after suitable examination, the Director

1 of the United States Information Agency may appoint per-
2 sons to be known as United States Information officers.
3 Such officers shall be appointed, promoted and retained on
4 the basis of merit and fitness and may be separated only in
5 accordance with law. Except for the limitations of time
6 contained in sections 522 and 527 of the Foreign Service
7 Act of 1946, as amended, all provisions of law not inconsis-
8 tent herewith which are applicable to Foreign Service Re-
9 serve officers shall be applicable to United States Informa-
10 tion officers, and the Director shall be guided by the policies
11 and principles prescribed in those sections. The Director
12 shall establish such examining and selection boards or panels
13 as may be necessary for use in the appointment, promotion
14 and separation of United States Information officers.

15 “(b) Any United States Information officer may be
16 separated by the Director for unsatisfactory performance of
17 duties, but only after review of his case by, and opportunity
18 for a hearing before, an impartial advisory board appointed
19 by the Director. The Director shall also provide for the
20 periodic appraisal of such officers and, in accordance with
21 regulations prescribed by him, may separate those who are
22 consistently ranked below a minimum level prescribed for
23 their class.

24 “(c) The Director may establish an independent retire-
25 ment and disability system for the benefit of United States

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1 Information officers based on the provisions of the Foreign
2 Service Act of 1946, as heretofore or hereafter amended.
3 Any officer separated pursuant to subsection (b) hereof
4 shall be entitled to the payments or retirement benefits pre-
5 scribed in sections 634 or 637 of that Act, as appropriate."

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By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FULBRIGHT,
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